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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

REPLY UNDER 37 CFR 1.116 – EXPEDITED PROCEDURE – TECH CTR 3600

Application of George A. Teacherson

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Serial No. 09/912,285

Filed: 7/24/2004

Group Art Unit 3617

Examiner: Jules

Commissioner for Patents

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MAY - 5 2004

GROUP 3600

ARTICULATED RAILCARS HAVING BEARING AND PLATE COUPLING

APPARATUS AND METHOD

CLARIFICATION

Sir:

IN RE: the timely filed response to the Office Action **Final Rejection**

Confirmation No. 5196. In the above-identified case, two (2) sets of claims were provided to the examiner.

The first set used the wording "low friction bearing." The second set of Amended claims used wording EXACTLY as EXAMINER demanded for allowable claims. The second set of claims begins in the middle of the response. Therefore, if examiner refused to allow the first set, the second set was provided so that the case can find allowance and be issued. This is Applicant's effort to advance the case to issue in the shortest possible time.

Telephone conversation with examiner revealed that examiner considered "bearing" to be anything including a table. Applicant then verbally re-clarified the case wording that 'bearing' was to be read as anything that allows the railcars to move on and off the device at will. Other taught elements kept the cars on the device when in use.

Therefore, although 'low-friction' probably has never been used either in the case nor on the telephone, the case is clearly about allowing railcars to move on and off the specialized device in the railyard at will. Therefore, this aspect of the case MUST have been fully and completely searched so to conform to statute.

Thus, examiner amendment replacing 'low friction' with 'means for removably attaching railcars' should be allowable. Applicant reiterates that the second set of claims is far too narrow for the technology disclosed. There must be fully searched wording that brings the complete aspect of the invention into allowance.

Please make an examiner's amendment. – Or allow the second set of claims.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "George A. Teacherson".

George A. Teacherson, Inventor

Reg. Patent Agent

703/285-4161